

## Message Text

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51

ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ( ISO ) R

DRAFTED BY ARA:CAR:JRBURKE:JR

APPROVED BY E:WJCASEY

ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN (DRAFT)

EB:IFD:OIA:MCKENNEDY

S/S - MR. LUERS

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P 101635Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 005230

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EMIN, JM

SUBJECT: BAUXITE NEGOTIATIONS

REFERENCE: KINGSTON 0069

1. WE HAVE REVIEWED WITH GREAT INTEREST THE REPORT OF YOUR MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER MANLEY ON JANUARY 7. THE TIMING OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S TRIP TO LONDON AND JUST WHEN HE WOULD LIKE A RESPONSE TO POINTS HE RAISED WITH YOU ARE, HOWEVER, SOMEWHAT IN DOUBT. WE WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING, THEREFORE, JUST HOW LONG MANLEY WILL BE ABSENT AND WHETHER OR NOT HE INDICATED TO YOU THAT IN HIS ABSENCE HE DESIRED THAT YOU CONVEY INFORMATION REGARDING OUR SERVING AS A "SECURE" MEANS OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE BAUXITE COMPANIES TO SOME OTHER OFFICIAL OF HIS GOVERNMENT.

2. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, BE WILLING TO PLAY AN APPROPRIATE ROLE IN FACILITATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE BAUXITE COMPANIES. IN SUCH DISCUSSIONS, WHICH OBVIOUSLY ARE HIGHLY SENSITIVE POLITICALLY IN JAMAICA, CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN ON BOTH SIDES TO AVOID ANY UNHELPFUL PUBLICITY  
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WHICH MIGHT OBLIGE THE PARTIES TO ADOPT RIGID PUBLIC POSITIONS. IN THE COURSE OF FORTHCOMING CONTACTS WITH THE ALUMINUM COMPANIES, WE WILL MENTION OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD WELCOME VISITS BY TOP LEVEL

EXECUTIVES SOMETIME DURING FEBRUARY. WE WILL NOT, HOWEVER,

TENDER ANY FORMAL INVITATION ON MANLEY'S BEHALF AND BELIEVE THAT THIS SHOULD COME DIRECTLY FROM MANLEY AND THE GOJ TO THE INDUSTRY HEADS. EITHER HE OR HIS MINISTERS HAVE MET THEM ALL AND GOJ CERTAINLY POSSESSES THE MEANS (AMBASSADOR FLETCHER, FOR EXAMPLE) TO PASS WHATEVER MESSAGE OR INVITATION IT DESIRES DIRECTLY TO THE COMPANIES.

3. WE ALSO INTEND TO DISCUSS THE BAUXITE SITUATION INFORMALLY WITH AMBASSADOR FLETCHER HERE IN WASHINGTON ON HIS RETURN (HE IS DUE BACK ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 10). HOWEVER, WE WILL DEFER DISCUSSIONS WITH FLETCHER IF YOU HAVE GAINED THE IMPRESSION IN YOUR TALK WITH MANLEY THAT THE PRIME MINISTER IS RESTRICTING KNOWLEDGE OF THIS SUBJECT TO A VERY SMALL CIRCLE WITHIN HIS GOVERNMENT. (WE ARE INCLINED TO FEEL THAT FLETCHER MUST BE PRIVY TO GOJ THINKING IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT HIS SON PARTICIPATED IN YOUR MEETING WITH MANLEY AND BECAUSE WE WOULD ASSUME THAT MANLEY WOULD HAVE SOUGHT FLETCHER'S ASSESSMENT OF THE MOOD IN THE US BEFORE PROCEEDING AS FAR AS HE HAS ON A BAUXITE POLICY REVIEW.)

4. WE ARE SOMEWHAT MYSTIFIED BY THE PM'S REFERENCE TO US PRESSURING GOJ FOR "SUBSTANTIAL MONIES" AT THE MOMENT THAT HE IS EXPERIENCING OTHER ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES (PARAGRAPH 5 REFTEL). WE CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT THIS SOMEHOW REFERS TO THE ONGOING DISCUSSIONS WE HAVE HAD WITH THE GOJ ON THE SUBJECT OF ALUMINA TRANSFER PRICING AND THE UPCOMING DISCUSSIONS TO DETERMINE A BAUXITE TRANSFER PRICE. UP UNTIL NOW, THESE DISCUSSIONS, THOUGH PROLONGED, HAVE BEEN PROCEEDING IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF APPARENT GOOD WILL ON BOTH SIDES. IT IS DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN MANLEY'S RATHER EMOTIONAL REFERENCE IF IT IS APPLICABLE TO THEM.

5. PLEASE PROVIDE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED IN PARAGRAPH 1 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 27 JUL 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BAUXITE, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JAN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE005230  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ARA:CAR:JRBURKE:JR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** P750004-1692  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740174/abbrzbqq.tel  
**Line Count:** 99  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** KINGSTON 0069  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <18 DEC 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BAUXITE NEGOTIATIONS  
**TAGS:** EMIN, PINT, JM  
**To:** KINGSTON  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005